World Alliance News Letter

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The Main Task of the Churches

The churches in this national emergency are confronted with heavy responsibilities. Churches are made up of religious people who are at the same time citizens of the state. As groups of religious citizens, the churches have an obligation to serve the state in such a way that its unity is strengthened, its courage increased and its morale maintained. As groups of religious men and women, on the other hand, the churches have the obligation to look farther into the future than government. It is their task to hold up steadfastly the essential standards of international life which overshadow national policy. These constructive aims alone can give meaning and value to the immediate struggle.

To preserve its life and integrity, the church must be more than the handmaid of the state. Support for—or opposition to — government policy is not enough. The main job of the church and synagogue in international relations is patiently and persistently to press those principles of justice and cooperation that are vital to the hope of a more righteous, humane and religious world. Guarding against ideals so vague that they do not illuminate the next stretch of road and avoiding simplified formulae which promise an easy way out, let the church study, believe and proclaim in concrete terms the deathless aims of its social strategy! Let the church be true to its highest insights of human need, of human potentiality, of human destiny! Let the church deepen its faith in the Kingdom of God!

This path may not be popular. It will differ from and may challenge national policy. But it will contribute to genuine national defense. It will promote the organization of a more just and durable peace. It will be worthy of the church's high calling.

Therefore, during the summer and the months ahead may each congregation intensify its concern for the peace aims of the church. May religious folk sharpen their understanding of and strengthen their loyalty to those ideals of world order and world brotherhood which are the great heritage of the past and the great hope of the future.

Toronto Church Conference

A conference of churchmen and religious leaders, called together by the Joint Committee of the American Sections of the Life and Work and the Faith and Order Movements, met at the University of Toronto on June 3, 4 and 5. A strong delegation was present from the United States and Canada, as well as representatives from Mexico. Altogether about 250 delegates attended.

Dr. John R. Mott and the Rt. Rev. L. W. B. Broughall, Bishop of Niagara, presided. For the most part, the delegates were appointed by the churches; but the conference itself was not, in a corporate sense, an official gathering. The only authority was in the character and ability of the delegates and the standing of the agencies and churches from which they came. What was lacking in authority, however, was made up in earnestness of purpose, and an evident willingness to face facts which are not pleasant and to attempt to find solutions for the difficult problems facing the churches in these tragic days.

The conference opened with a series of statements on "The Ecumenical Outlook in the Americas," by Dr. Samuel McCrea Cavert, of the Federal Council; Dr. C. E. Silcox, Secretary of the Canadian Branch of the World Alliance; and Rev. Eleazar Goaza, General Superintendent of the Methodist Churches in Mexico. Mr. Goaza in his address said: "Because we are Christians we have something in common, and because we have something in common we must work together. The only way to bring Latin America and North America together is through mutual understanding based on the spirit of Jesus Christ."

Among the other speakers were Dr. John A. Mackay, Bishop Ivan Lee Holt, Rt. Rev. George F. Kingston, Dr. Gordon A. Sisco, Mr. John Foster Dulles, Mr. Charles P. Taft, and Rt. Rev. G. Ashton Oldham, President of the American Council of the World Alliance. The Lt. Governor of Ontario not only welcomed the delegates to the conference in a formal address, but also tendered a reception in the Provincial Government House to which all the delegates were invited.

On the second day the conference divided itself into ten discussion groups. It was in these groups that the real question of the relation of the churches to a world at war was faced. A large amount of preparatory work had been done by Dr. Silcox, and the syllabus of 36 pages which he prepared was a great aid to the discussion.

The Canadian Council of the World Alliance arranged a luncheon on the opening day of the conference, at which Dr. Reinhold Niebuhr, of Union Theological Seminary, gave a masterly address. Dr. Henry A. Atkinson also spoke for the American Council of the Alliance. Three hundred and fifty persons attended this luncheon.

The American delegates felt the delicacy of the situa-

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ation, coming as they did to a meeting held in a country at war. There was, however, no embarrassment occasioned, and the spirit developed was one of good fellowship with faith in the future and confidence in the ability of religion to help in this struggle. The conference indicates the vitality of the church and vindicates our faith that spiritual powers in the long run will overcome the threats of brute force and ruthless aggression.

Sword of the Spirit

A significant interfaith movement has arisen in Britain to meet the spiritual needs of the present crisis. Its program is based upon the statement issued by interfaith leaders last December, combining five principles urged by the Pope and five principles adopted by the Oxford Conference (see *News Letter* for January 1941). Its name, Sword of the Spirit, comes from an anti-fascist Catholic organization in England and is derived from *Ephesians* 6:17.

On May 11 and 12 the new movement held two mass meetings in London. Cardinal Hinsley, Catholic Primate of England, was chairman of the first meeting, on the subject, "A Christian International Order." The Archbishop of Canterbury was chairman of the second meeting, on "A Christian Order for Britain." Commenting on this development, Hillaire Belloc's *Weekly Review* says:

> The significance of these meetings lies in the fact that they have been inaugurated by the Anglican, Catholic and free churches. This is a new departure for England. Never since the Reformation has there been a public demonstration of unity of purpose on a matter of such high import by members of conflicting beliefs.

The movement is growing and spreading spontaneously. Study groups on social problems are being organized widely, and individual memberships at one shilling per year are being sent in by the thousand. On May 26 the movement announced that a group of 16,000 members had been formed among the air forces fighting for Britain. In Canada, a pamphlet entitled *The Sword of the Spirit in Canada* is being circulated. The basic aim of the movement is more than a spiritual defense against totalitarianism: it is a religious drive for a better society during and after the war. Its major concern is the welfare of the underprivileged and the "little" man.

The leaders of this effort are attempting to work out a strategy for the permanent betterment of the lot of ordinary men and women. If this objective is to be achieved in Britain and elsewhere, it will mean large sacrifices on the part of privileged groups in all of the democracies.

Three Fundamental Values

On June 1 Pope Piux XII broadcast to Catholics throughout the world a message commemorating the 50th anniversary of the *Rerum Novarum*, the social encyclical of Leo XIII. In his message, the Pope stressed three fundamental values basic to "the future organization of that new order which the world expects and hopes will arise from the seething ferment of the present struggle": the use of material goods, labor and the family. The concepts set forth may be summarized as follows:

1. The needs of human beings rather than the state form the true end of government. The state has no right to unlimited power over the individual; rather it has the obligation to "safeguard the inviolable sphere of the right of the human person and to facilitate the fulfillment of his duties." National economy likewise has as its true end " to secure without interruption the material condition in which the individual life of the citizen may fully develop." A just distribution of goods rather than their total abundance is the test of sound economy.

2. The individual has not only a natural duty, but a right to work. The right to organize labor, consequently, belongs above all to the employers and workers immediately concerned. Interference by the state should be aimed at protecting the personal character of labor —and at preserving other personal freedoms.

3. Regulations concerning private property should safeguard the family, the roots of a nation's greatness. In particular, the "living space" that matters is the "vital space of the family," which should be protected by the colonization of agricultural workers in undeveloped areas. Towards the end of his message, the Pope said:

> Keep burning the noble flame of a brotherly social spirit . . . do not permit it to lack for nourishment; let it flare up through your homage and not die quenched by an unworthy, timid, cautious inaction in face of the needs of the poor among our brethren, or be overcome by the dust and dirt carried by the whirlwind of the anti-Christian or non-Christian spirit. Nourish it; keep it alive; increase it. Make this flame burn more brightly; carry it wherever a groan of suffering, a lament of misery, a cry of pain, reaches you.

American Peace Aims

In a speech on May 18 Secretary of State Cordell Hull set forward five basic principles for guiding the postwar world. The principles he enunciated are briefly as follows:

1. Extreme nationalism must not again be permitted to express itself in excessive trade restrictions.

2. Nondiscrimination in international commercial relations must be the rule, so that international trade may grow and prosper.

3. Raw material supplies must be available to all nations without discrimination.

4. International agreements regulating the supply of commodities must be so handled as to pro-

tect fully the interests of the consuming countries and their people.

5. The institutions and arrangements of international finance must be so set up that they lend aid to the essential enterprises and the continuous development of all countries and permit the payment through processes of trade consonant with the welfare of all countries.

Famine Grows in Europe

Despite the war's disruption of trustworthy information from the Continent, it is clear that severe privation and famine are following closely on the heels of conflict. A report of the United States Department of Agriculture, issued on May 26, states that while most of Europe can hold out until the new crops are harvested, there is a shortage of essential foods not only in some of the occupied countries, but in unoccupied France, Spain and Finland. In some quarters, the report stated undernourishment is already acute. Food reserves have been drawn upon in all countries, and a further curtailment in rations may be necessary.

The Department of Agriculture report stated that Germany was in a comparatively favorable position, Italy less so, but that there was little hope for improvement in France, Belgium and Norway, due to German requisitioning. Conditions in Belgium are described as critical. This report is supported by unofficial American observers. Howard E. Kershner, relief director of the American Friends Service Committee, said on June 3 that "starvation, want and destitution are rampant" in unoccupied France — "deaths are being attributed to other causes because people weak from undernourishment fall prey to all kinds of diseases." John Cudahy, former Ambassador to Belgium, stated on May 26 that most Belgians are on "starvation rations" and that children under 15 are "seriously underfed." He wrote:

> Some 2,000,000 young Belgians will be cursed for the rest of their lives by stunted and impoverished physique, weakened and degenerated brain and discolored, embittered characters unless relief comes soon.

In Britain, too, inadequate diet may be closely connected with the big rise in infectious diseases announced on June 2. It is significant that the first ship carrying supplies under the lease-lend legislation contained a cargo of food.

In an address on "Food and Foreign Policy," given May 27, Assistant Secretary of State Adolf A. Berle, Jr. explained the government policy with regard to relief:

> Instead . . . of asking "Who is responsible for this?" we have asked, "Will the relief actually do any good? Or will it merely feed one group in one place and increase misery elsewhere by encouraging or assisting invaders or aggressors to requisition or seize or buy with worthless currency or otherwise take away for themselves food which ought to go to the populations of these countries?" If the latter happens, plainly the relief given does not assist in the slightest.

More Aid for China

Recent developments indicate an increase in American aid to China and a decrease in aid to Japan. It was announced in Chungking on May 27 that agreements involving supply of American materials valued at nearly $100,000,000 under the lease-lend legislation have been reached between the two governments and that initial shipments are already arriving in China. Moreover, export controls curbing Japanese access to important raw materials went into effect in the Philippine Islands on May 29. Exports to China in the first quarter of 1941 totaled nearly $20,000,000 or $5,000,000 less than the corresponding period in 1940. Imports from China for the first three months amounted to $20,000,000. Exports to Japan, on the other hand, in the first quarter totaled nearly $33,000,000, as compared with $63,000,000 in the first quarter of 1940. Thus, aid to Japan decreased nearly 48 per cent during this period, though it is still 64 per cent greater than aid to China.

A principle important for the peace of Asia was announced by Secretary Hull in an exchange of letters at the end of May with Dr. Quo Tai-chi, Chinese foreign minister. Dr. Quo subscribed "to the principle of equality of commercial opportunity and non-discriminatory treatment." In his reply, Secretary Hull stated:

> That the Government of the United States . . . expects when conditions of peace again prevail to move rapidly, by processes of orderly negotiation and agreement with the Chinese Government, toward relinquishment of the last of certain rights of a special character which this country, together with other countries, has long possessed in China by virtue of agreements providing for extraterritorial jurisdiction and related practices.

China Relief Campaign

The third week of May was China Week. Meetings were held in many cities to intensify the campaign for $5,000,000 which seven relief agencies organized as United China Relief are trying to raise. The week was preceded by an interfaith meeting in Carnegie Hall, New York, addressed by Dr. E. Stanley Jones, Rabbi David deSola Pool and Msgr. Francis W. Walsh. The campaign is to continue until July 31. An editorial in *The New York Times* is very much to the point:

> Nowhere in the world will an American dollar buy more than in China. A single dollar will keep a refugee alive for twenty days. Two will provide chloroform for eighty surgical operations which otherwise are torture. Twenty will support an orphan for a year. Twenty-five will maintain a hospital bed for a year. One hundred will enable the Chinese to set up a soap, food or chemical cooperative. A few thousand will start one of the industrial cooperatives through which the Chinese people are trying to make up for the loss or paralysis of 90 per cent of their pre-war industrial equipment. The possible alternative is

disease, famine and ultimate collapse. The $5,000,000 . . . will not of itself save China, but it may save literally millions of Chinese. It will speak to them of American friendship, an assurance which they may be excused for doubting if given only in words.

U.S.O. Campaign

The United Service Organizations for National Defense on June 3 launched a campaign for $10,765,000. This sum is needed to staff and run some 360 service clubs near training camps and defense centers. The government is going to build and equip these centers, but the six voluntary welfare organizations united in this campaign are to run them. In the initial broadcast of the campaign, President Roosevelt urged:

> The campaign goal of $10,765,000 will provide necessary service in hundreds of towns and for many thousands of young men and women. From all of us who possibly can, contributing to this fund and for this purpose is not only an obligation but also an opportunity.

June 6 to 8 was celebrated in churches throughout the country as U.S.O. Sabbath. Special sections in churches were set aside for men in uniform and many service men were entertained at Sunday dinners after church. Ministers widely urged parishioners to support the fund-raising campaign.

International Religious Broadcasts

A series of 26 broadcasts to England is being presented by the newly-formed International Religious Broadcasting Committee. A 15-minute message each Sunday afternoon is sent by the National Broadcasting Company and rebroadcast by the British Broadcasting Corporation. Cooperating with the N.B.C. in this venture are the Federal Council of Churches, the World Alliance, the Foreign Missions Conference, the American Friends of the World Council of Churches and the Department of National Religious Radio.

The purpose of the broadcasts, according to Niles Trammel, president of N.B.C., is to further a greater understanding between the Christian people of America and those of other lands. The program's long-range objective is to contribute to human solidarity throughout the world.

In the initial broadcast on May 11, Mr. Harry N. Holmes, Associate Secretary of the World Alliance, said:

> Among the news that flashes across the Atlantic there is one item that deeply touches all hearts. It is the wide-spread uprising in the churches of Europe to the end that the peace of the future must be laid on a stable foundation of Christian faith if it is to be durable. That British friends in the midst of a war for their very lives should be working, thinking and praying for such a world has stirred us beyond words. The price now being paid in life and treasure demands a fair and just future. We would associate ourselves very humbly with that keen desire. God grant that when the war ends, when the long hard furrow is ploughed, Christians everywhere will be neither too bitter nor too tired for the tasks of reconciliation. May confidence in the final victory of God buttress and sustain the hearts of Christians in all lands at this time and carry them into the future when "all we have willed or loved or dreamed of good shall exist." "All nations will be shaken, but," the old prophet continues, "the desire of all nations shall come and I will fill this house with glory, saith the Lord of Hosts," (*Haggai* 2:7).

Vitamins for Britain

A new relief organization, Vitamins for Britain, Inc., has been formed in New York. It plans to send large quantities of vitamin products to England for the many children needing additional nourishment, suffering from malnutrition or recovering from illness. An earlier committee, Esco Fund Committee, has already sent 20,000 bottles of vitamin products, enough to provide for 10,000 children for six months. Friends of this group are providing for the administrative expenses of the new agency. Shipments are being cleared through the American Red Cross. Each bottle shipped is labelled: "From American Children to British Children through Vitamins for Britain, Inc., in cooperation with the Interfaith Committee for Aid to the Democracies."

Contributions should be sent to Vitamins for Britain, Inc., 113 West 57th Street, New York.

Three Hundred Million Bibles

The 125th anniversary of the American Bible Society was celebrated on May 8 in City Hall, New York. The anniversary meeting, addressed by Mayor LaGuardia and Newbold Morris, president of the City Council, was held in the same room where the society was ratified on May 13, 1816. During the intervening years, the American Bible Society has distributed nearly 306 million copies of the Bible in whole or in part. The whole Bible has been published in 184 languages. Parts of the Bible have been published in 1,052 different languages and dialects.

Sixty Years of Service

On May 21 the American Red Cross was 60 years old. The organization began in 1881 with a volunteer group of 890 people, brought together by Clara Barton. After three score years of humanitarian service to military and civilian sufferers, the Red Cross has a membership of 8,700,000, of which a million are in its active service. During the present conflict the Red Cross has distributed in money and goods over 35 million dollars for the relief of war-torn countries. Part of the funds have been contributed by government appropriation, but over half of the relief total has been collected by the Red Cross itself.

Peace Aims of the Churches

One of the significant developments among religious groups occasioned by the spread of war is a growing sense of social concern. So many essential human and religious values are endangered by total war that the task of establishing a better environment for human personality is obviously a major responsibility of the churches. Consequently, serious study by churchmen of the conditions of a just and lasting peace is increasing. The following paragraph from the pronouncement adopted by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) on May 27 illustrates well the growth of concern for the churches' peace aims:

> Aware of the emergency confronting the world due to the rule of dictators and the substitution of force for law, the Church must look behind and beyond these conditions to the causes underlying them. The quality of our civilization in years to come will depend on the degree to which the peace which follows the present conflict is motivated and administered by Christian insight and ideals. The world will desperately need a United States of America prepared to contribute toward a peace growingly imbued with those principles of goodwill and equity which God expects His children to observe in all their relations with each other. We urge upon our churches an earnest study of the policies which Christians should be prepared to advance and support on behalf of peace during and after the present war.

Similar concern has been expressed widely in Britain and the other democracies. The Sword of the Spirit meetings in London and the Toronto conference mentioned above typify the growing awareness of the need for religious unity and social action. This concern is shared by many religious folk in the dictatorships and in the conquered countries, even though it cannot be expressed publicly.

A few of the recent steps towards a concrete formulation of the churches' peace aims, which are noted here, indicate a hopeful and probably significant beginning in religious endeavor.

Methodist Conference

A conference of Protestant leaders on the bases of a just and lasting peace was held May 27-30 under the auspices of the World Peace Commission of the Methodist Church. The conference urged the following steps: the formation of a world federation or union, which would include the formation of a world bank and "some kind of world economic congress composed of consumer representatives and financial, industrial, agricultural, labor and religious leaders from every land"; re-examination of "the whole question of the status of colonial peoples"; the creation of regional structures to facilitate freedom of trade in each region; freedom of the seas for all nations; cultural cooperation as an aid to international solidarity. The report also urged a crusade for a united Protestantism as prerequisite to effective social action.

Catholic Report

Seven committees and sub-committees of the Catholic Association for International Peace have joined in preparing a careful statement entitled *America's Peace Aims*. The report applies the five conditions of a just peace enunciated by Pope Pius XII to the following points: "an American offer of acceptable and somewhat fair terms of peace; an American offer of a plan of world economic organization to help the fulfillment of the needs and 'just' demands of peoples; American cooperation in a political world organization to improve the terms of peace, help secure world economic cooperation and prevent war." Appended to the report will be outlines on an international "bill of rights" and on possible forms of European and world organization.

Protestant Memorandum

The Committee of Direction of the Federal Council's Commission to Study the Bases of a Just and Durable Peace has issued a memorandum on certain basic questions for discussion in the churches (see *Suggested Reading*). The memorandum proposes a new governmental unit to study economic relations with other nations and to advise concerning legislation connected with foreign trade, immigration and money exchange. The statement also urges the President to invite other nations now to take parallel action pending the time when joint action may be practicable. It is the committee's hope that through such a plan, aimed at curbing economic irresponsibility and constituting an "act of discipline born out of decent regard for others," our nation can set a significant example.

Other Developments

A number of similar steps are being taken in the same direction. The Church Peace Union at its semi-annual meeting June 17-19 will consider a statement and program prepared by a special committee on the bases of a just and lasting peace. The Congregational churches, acting through their Council for Social Action, are planning a year's study of the same subject. In England the Commission of the Churches for International Friendship and Social Responsibility (including the British Council of the World Alliance) is now preparing for its autumn meeting a memorandum on international reconstruction.

The fundamental aim of this religious study and discussion was summarized by the Bishop of Chichester on May 11:

> We stand for a Christian order—a better order than any of us have yet known. It is not the order which existed when the war began or . . . the order which was imposed when the World War ended . . . but the winning of that order is the only thing which offers any hope or comfort or inspiration to the common man.

PEACE PROJECTS

The Ridgewood Council of Churches, Ridgewood, New Jersey, has adopted a refugee family from Vienna. The family of six escaped last September and has been scattered, the mother and father living in a Quaker hostel in Iowa, while the four children, ranging in age from 14 to 19, have been attending schools in New York and New Jersey. The father, a journalist, had published articles which had incurred the anger of the Nazis. The Council of Churches of Ridgewood planned a series of entertainments, through which $1,000 was raised. This sum will pay rent on an eight-room house in Ridgewood and other expenses to maintain a home for the family for a year. The house has been completely furnished by members of the Council, many of whom contributed household articles they no longer needed, and the pantry has been stocked with food in anticipation of the arrival of the re-united family. The family was adopted through the American Committee for Christian Refugees, Inc., of New York. This is an extremely practical project for the expression of religious goodwill.

A World Tour

A report from Rev. Julia N. Budlong of the Santa Ana, California, Unitarian Church describes an imaginative and excellent project in international friendship being conducted in the Junior Fellowship. This Sunday school group contains about a dozen children ranging in age from four to fourteen. The group pretends to travel around the world. The minister writes:

> Concrete details of the lives of children of other lands, and their religious culture, are studied, imitated, pictured, acted. In Arabia, we made a prayer rug out of scraps of paper from Christmas card linings. Touring the South Seas, we modelled clay idols. In China, we had a Dragon procession, with firecrackers and paper dragon. We do all we can in the way of costuming as the children we visit are costumed. We try to find the legends of all the strange religions, and tell them as we do the Bible stories. We act them out, get pictures for them, try to analyze the inner meaning for those other children. This takes no little research, but you can see, the possibilities are endless.

The report mentions among the literature used for this project, the *Around the World Cruise Books* of the American Association of University Women, the world fellowship material of the National Council for the Prevention of War, and Unitarian educational materials. A great deal, however, must be gathered from scattered sources, and much depends upon the resources and background of the leader. One of the excellent features of this project is its reinforcement by the inclusion, whenever possible, of Mexican, Japanese and other "foreign" children on Sunday school picnics.

The Common Language of Music

Two services of music to further international friendship were held recently in the Union Church of Pocantico Hills, New York. The services were planned and executed by the pastor, Rev. Chester Alan Tucker. Mr. Tucker writes of this project:

> Its novelty lay in the use of traditional music from many lands. The services are made up of the very best material. It has helped my group appreciate the musical treasures of all peoples, giving them an appreciation of good music as well as the feeling of goodwill toward all groups.

Study of Church Policy

During the past year, the governing board of the Rosedale Gardens Presbyterian Church, Plymouth, Michigan, made a serious and extended study of the policy that the church should follow in time of war. The Social Education and Action report of the 1940 Presbyterian General Assembly and *Preachers Present Arms,* by Abrams, were used as materials. The problem was discussed at length over a period of several months by the six men on the board. The findings of the group, recommending certain steps for the church, were then used as the basis for a sermon by the minister, Rev. John B. Forsyth.

Human Relations Group

A letter from Ruth K. Cain describes one of the peace projects of All Souls' Church, Braintree, Massachusetts:

> We have a Human Relations Group, composed of both men and women, which meets one evening a month in the Parish House. During the past year our subjects have alternated between home affairs and international topics and have been open to the public. During the first hour a well-informed speaker presents his or her views on a given subject, then a question and discussion period follows, which is always very stimulating. We have had among our guest speakers this year Hon. Alexis S. Liatis, the Greek consul at Boston; Mrs. Max Ulin, chairman of the Department of International Relations of the Massachusetts State Federation of Women's Clubs and Dr. Marjorie Walters, a young British student engaged in graduate study at Radcliffe College. During the previous year we had a Finnish night when some of our neighbors in West Quincy gave us a better understanding of the history, music, industries and crafts of their country. Norway and Poland were also presented to us by representatives of those countries.
>
> This project is not pretentious. But by little steps, perhaps we can help increase in some small measure the spirit of friendship and goodwill.

Study and Action

The Dover Church in Dover, Massachusetts, sponsors an annual community forum each year. People of other faiths and representatives of town organizations have been invited to serve on the steering committee, and the meetings have been held in the Town House so that everyone in the community would feel free to attend. One of the parishioners has assured the forum of financial backing, but thus far the sale of season tickets has made it possible each year to meet expenses.

To do so has required careful planning. The program, for example, has frequently been arranged so as to secure speakers visiting Boston. The pastor, Rev. William B. Rice, emphasizes the importance of staff-work in the success of this forum.

Another project associated with this church has been a refugee committee, organized through the initiative of one of the women in the church. Funds were collected for cables, for the passage of poor children and for expenses here and abroad. A friend in London served as the committee's representative. Despite their different backgrounds, the children, many of whom were related to members of the community, became part of a democratic group. The pastor writes:

> Many of the children are in the local public and private schools and in our church school and Junior Church. They are very happy and our choice of hosts has worked out very well.

Helping Men in Army Camps

When it was learned that 500 military students would occupy the old soldiers' home in Noroton, Connecticut, two women from neighboring Congregational churches began making inquiries about ways of meeting the religious and recreational needs of the men, with the result that the local clergy met to work out a program. Since the chaplain was soon to come, the religious side of the problem awaited his arrival, at which time he conferred with the clergy and worked out his program in consultation with them. The clergy invited local civic organizations to handle the recreational problem. A meeting called by the local Red Cross, the proper liaison organization between civilian and military groups, led to the formation of a Recreation Committee which sponsors bi-weekly dances on Saturday nights, with the cooperation of all local churches and organizations. Every other Sunday "Open House" at the Community Association offers the men games, the opportunity to meet girls, and tea. These community efforts have helped also to open the homes to the students who have made many congenial friends.

High School Contest

Warren Schulz, a high school senior from Ilion, New York, will take a trip to South America this summer as the guest of the League of Nations Association. He wins this trip for having prepared the best paper in the nation-wide examination conducted by the Association's Educational Committee on April 4. Warren, who will be valedictorian of his class at graduation, won the third prize in last year's student contest. This year, in addition to the first prize, six cash awards and eight honorable mentions were given. Over 1,000 high schools participated in the contest. Here is a project that is doubly educational. Both the contest and the prize contribute to a better understanding of international problems.

SUGGESTED READING

101 Prayers For Peace, compiled by G. A. Cleveland Shrigley. The Westminister Press, Philadelphia. $1.00.

> A volume of prayers for peace by some of the most distinguished Christian preachers and educators of England and America. It should prove of great help not only to group leaders, but to individual church members.

World Organization

After the War: Plans and Problems, by Pennington Haile. Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, 405 West 117th Street, New York. Single copy free.

> An excellent tool for discussion groups. Key international problems are summarized very briefly with references to literature and informational agencies.

"A Just and Durable Peace." Federal Council of Churches, 297 Fourth Avenue, New York. 5 cents.

> "Memorandum embodying the preliminary views on certain basic questions of the Committee of Direction of the Commission to Study the Bases of a Just and Durable Peace." Not to be confused with the compendium of proposals. *A Just and Durable Peace.*

Leadership of the United States in World Organization For Prosperity and Peace. Carnegie Endowmen for International Peace 405 West 117th Street, New York. 5 cents.

> The June issue of *International Conciliation* contains a handy collection of extracts from public addresses and resolutions on world organization from 1901 to the present.

Plan For Permanent Peace, by Hans Heymann. Harper & Bros., New York. $3.50.

> Dr. Heymann presents a detailed economic plan for peace which he calls "social capitalism." A new "bank of nations" is an important part of the proposed structure. The plan was initially conceived 20 years ago when the author was an economic adviser to the Weimar republic. Some sections of the book are difficult for the layman, but the discussion on international economic problems is stimulating.

Democracy's Battle, by Francis Williams. Viking, New York. $2.75.

> The former editor of the *London Herald* argues, as does Samuel Grafton in *All Out!,* that if the democratic cause is to win, democracy must be extended in many directions.

Europe

War on the Short Wave, *Headline Book* by Harold M. Graves, Jr. Foreign Policy Association, 22 East 38th Street, New York. 25 cents.

> An interesting analysis and comparison chiefly of British and German broadcasts since the outbreak of the war.

Blood, Sweat and Tears, by Winston Churchill. Putnam, New York. $3.00.

> Collected speeches from May 1938 through February 8, 1941.

Mission to the North, by Florence J. Harriman. Lippincott, Philadelphia. $3.50.

While enlightening with regard to the conquest of Norway and Mrs. Harriman's three years as American minister, this book is particularly valuable as a thoughtful estimate of the Norwegian people.

The Long Week-end, by Robert Graves and Alan Hodge. Macmillan, New York. $3.00.

This "social history of Great Britain 1918-1939" contains many interesting sidelights on Britain between wars.

American Policy

Our Policy in the Pacific. American Association for Adult Education, 60 East 62nd Street, New York. 10 cents.

The first in a series of *Defense Digests* specially prepared for the use of study and discussion groups.

The Time is Now, by Pierre van Paassen. Dial, New York. $1.00.

The author of *Days of Our Years* holds that America can defeat Hitler "if we start fighting now."

Facts About Labor and National Defense. Twentieth Century Fund, 330 West 42nd Street, New York. 2 cents.

A good summary of present problems of labor. The bulletin urges voluntary mediation rather than compulsory arbitration.

America's Economic Strength, by C. J. Hitch. Oxford University Press, New York. $1.00.

An attempt to assess American economy with reference to its bearing on the war.

New Directions in Our Trade Policy, by William Diebold, Jr. Council on Foreign Relations, 45 East 65th Street, New York. $2.00.

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Pan-Americanism

Latin America, by Samuel Guy Inman. F. E. Compton & Co., 1000 N. Dearborn Street, Chicago. 10 cents.

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Economic Defense of Latin America, by Percy W. Bidwell. World Peace Foundation, 40 Mt. Vernon Street, Boston. 25 cents.

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